



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

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Japan

Agricultural Situation

New Requirements for Package Recycling Labeling 2003

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Report Highlights:

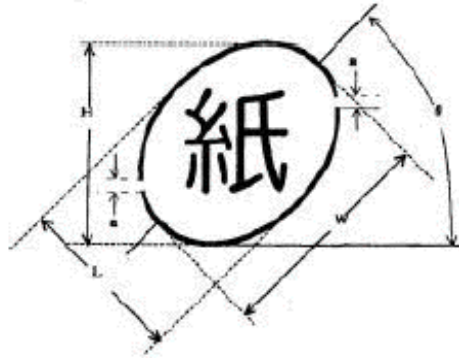
The Government of Japan will begin full implementation of its new Package Recycling Law on April 1, 2003. The law will require manufacturers to pay all costs associated with collecting, sorting, transporting and recycling paper and plastic packaging. Under the new law, paper and plastic packaging and containers will need to be labeled for appropriate recycling. Importers will bear primary responsibility for labeling imported products, but U.S. manufacturers and exporters may be asked to help with the required labeling.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Tokyo [JA1], JA

In April 2000, Japan implemented a new Package Recycling Law which requires paper and plastic packaging to be appropriately labeled and recycled. Private industry is being required to pay all costs associated with this recycling. For imported products, the cost will be born by importers. However, it is possible that Japanese importers will begin to take recycling costs into account when choosing the goods they import, and some Japanese importers may ask their suppliers overseas to cooperate in supplying the additional labeling .

The new labeling law becomes fully mandatory on April 1, 2003. Importers will be responisble for making sure that there are appropriate labels on all packaging and containers used for imported goods. Specifically, the law requires that paper packaging be labeled as per Form 1 (for printing) or Form 2 (for stamping), and that plastic packaging materials be labled as per Form 3 (for printing) or Form 4 (for stamping).

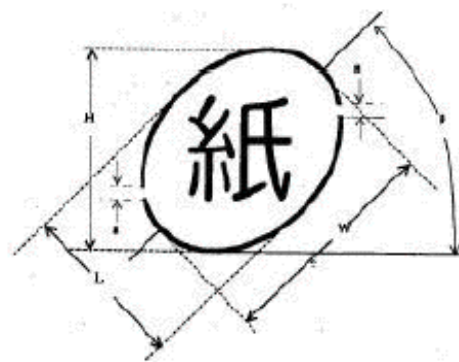
More details may be found at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's website (<http://www.meti.go.jp/english/information/data/cReEffect01e.html>) and in our 1999 GAIN report, JA9121.

FOR PAPER**Form 1**

Remarks:

- H: Height (6 mm or more)
- L shall be 7/8 of H, and W shall be 1.1 of H.
- a: Width of break of ellipse (7/100 of H or less)
- θ : Leaning angle of ellipse (45°)

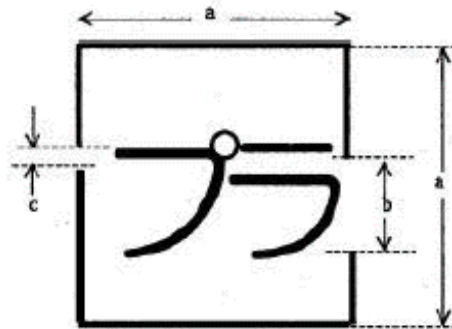
The letter size shall be 6 point type or bigger as provided in Japanese Industrial Standard (JIS) Z 8305.

FOR PAPER**Form 2**

Remarks:

- H: Height (8 mm or more)
- L shall be $7/8$ of H, and W shall be 1.1 of H.
- a: Width of break of ellipse ($7/100$ of H or less)
- θ : Leaning angle of ellipse (45°)

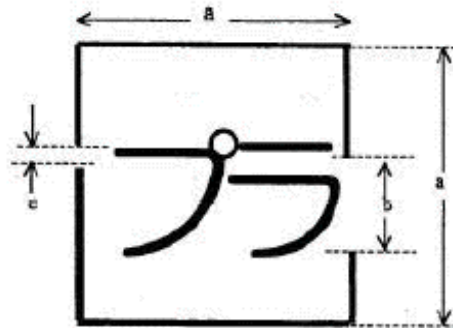
The letter size shall be 8 point type or bigger in size as provided in Japanese Industrial Standard (JIS) Z 8305.

FOR PLASTIC**Form 3**

Remarks:

- a: Length of one side (6 mm or more)
- b: Width of break of square ($2/5$ of a or less)
- c: Width of break of square ($1/14$ of a or less)

The letter size shall be 6 point type or bigger in size as provided in Japanese Industrial Standard (JIS) Z 8305.

FOR PLASTIC**Form 4**

Remarks:

- a: Length of one side (8 mm or more)
- b: Width of break of square ($2/5$ of a or less)
- c: Width of break of square ($1/14$ of a or less)

The letter size shall be 8 point type or bigger in size as provided in Japanese Industrial Standard (JIS) Z 8305.